



L I F E A N D D E A T H

A L I E N S TM

3 OF 4

DAN
ABNETT

MORITAT

RAIN
BEREDO

THE BEAST
WITHIN!





LIFE AND DEATH ALIENS™

SCRIPT **DAN ABNETT** ART **MORITAT** COLORS **RAIN BEREDO**
LETTERING **MICHAEL HEISLER** COVER ART **DAVID PALUMBO**

PART ELEVEN OF SEVENTEEN OF **LIFE AND DEATH**

(see the previous miniseries *Predator: Life and Death* and *Prometheus: Life and Death*)

This story takes place approximately forty-three years after the events in the motion picture *Aliens* (and just over a year after the events in the *Fire and Stone* story cycle).

Captain Paget and her Colonial Marines—along with assorted survivors from ill-fated missions to the planets LV-797 and LV-223—went through hell to finally make it safely back to the USS *Hasdrubal*, only to discover that one member of their party, Chris, believed to be dead, was still alive on the surface of LV-223—inside an Alien hive!

When Paget led a rescue mission back to the planet, the team encountered two others of the presumed dead—Galgo and his Predator companion, Ahab. Together, they make their way to the hive to save Chris . . . even though they may be too late!

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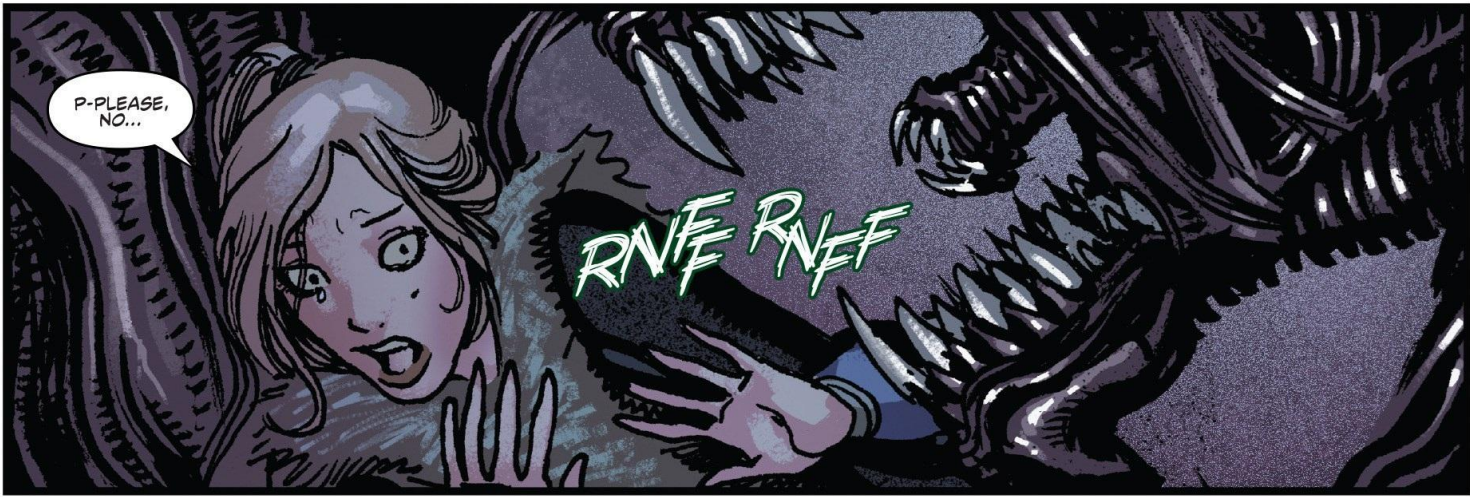
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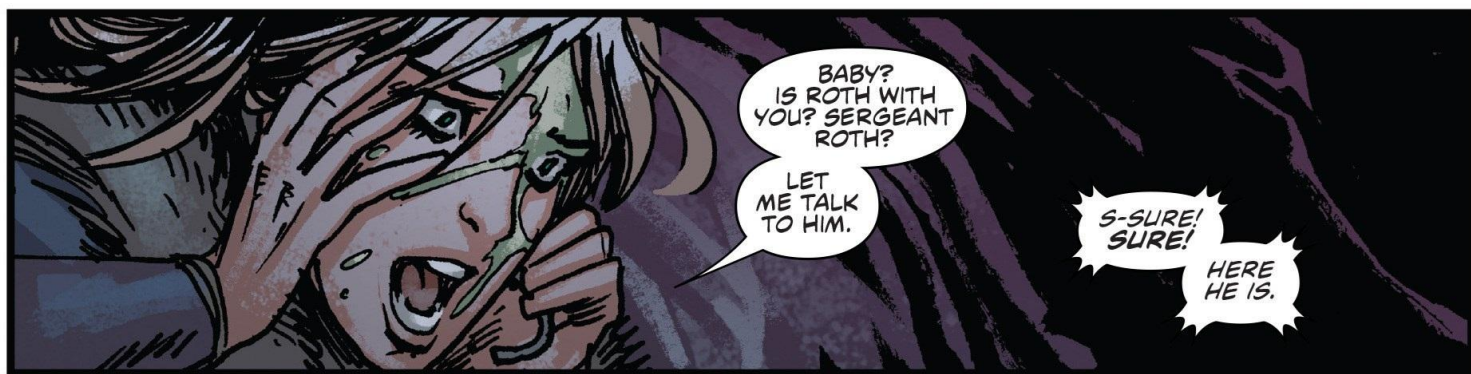
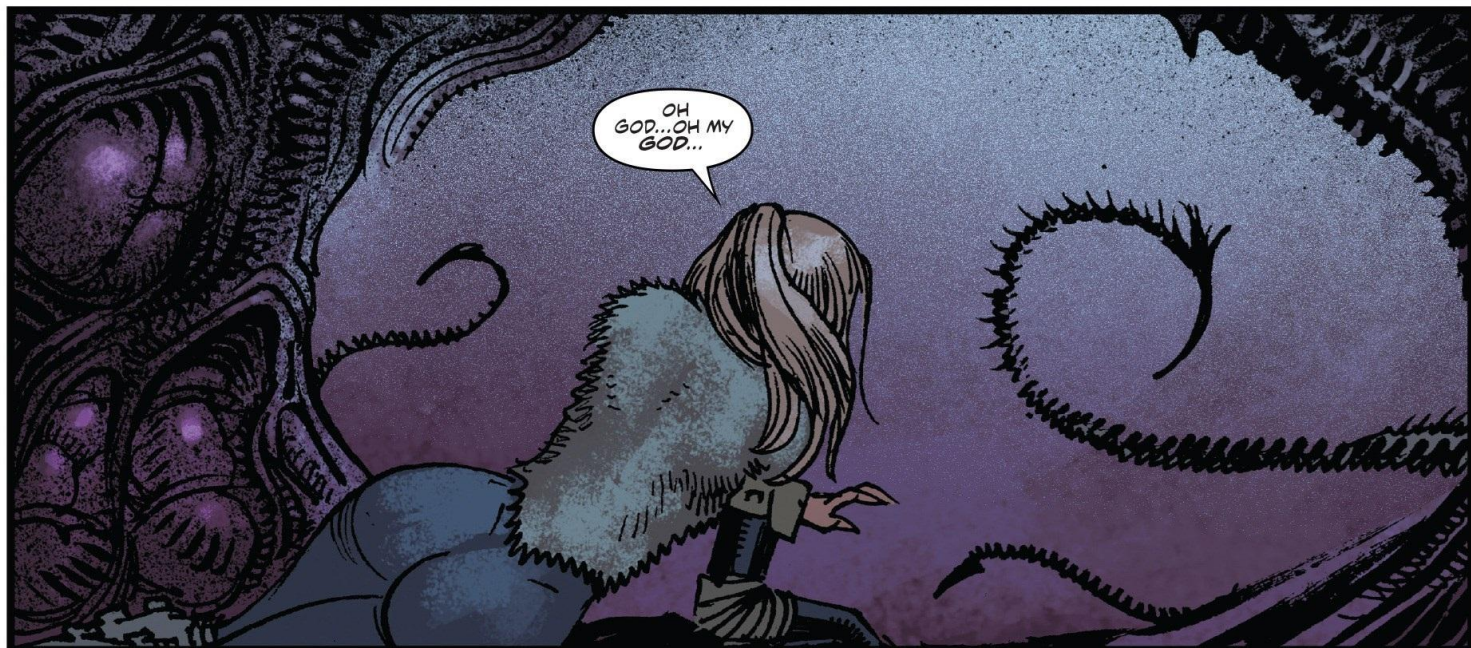




CHRIS,
WE'RE COMING
FOR YOU...

SKSSSS







ROTH,
SHUT UP
AND LISTEN
TO ME.

ARE YOU
LISTENING?

COPY,
YES.

DON'T
WASTE ANY
MORE LIVES.
BACK UP AND GET
CLEAR. DO YOU
READ ME?

CHRIS,
WE'RE
COMING--

ROTH,
I'M TALKING TO
YOU BECAUSE YOU'RE
A PROFESSIONAL.
PLEASE MAKE A
PROFESSIONAL
ASSESSMENT.

JILL CAN'T
HEAR THIS. SHE
WON'T HEAR
THIS. SHE --

SHE
LOVES ME,
AND SHE WON'T
EVER GIVE UP
HOPE.

BUT
THERE IS
NO HOPE.
NOT FOR
ME.

WHAT
IS IT? ROTH,
WHAT'S SHE
SAYING?

I'M
CARRYING
ONE OF THEM.
I'VE BEEN
IMPLANTED.

CHRIS--

LEAVE
ME. I'M DEAD.
GET JILL OUT
OF THERE.

SHE...
CHRIS...SHE'S
RECOMMENDING
WE ABORT.

WHAT?
NO!



CHRIS, WE ARE COMING FOR YOU! DO YOU HEAR ME? WE'RE COMING FOR YOU!

END OF STORY!



I KNOW WHY YOU'RE SAYING THIS!

THEY GOT YOU, DIDN'T THEY? YOU'RE HOSTING.

WE CAN STILL DO THIS, CHRIS!

Y-YOU CAN'T, BABY...



I TALKED TO A MAN CALLED LORIMER, OKAY? HE'S WEYLAND-YUTANI.

LORIMER?



HE'S PROMISED THE FULL BACKING OF THE COMPANY. WE PULL YOU OUT, FREEZE YOU, GET YOU HOME, AND THEY DO THE EXTRACTION.

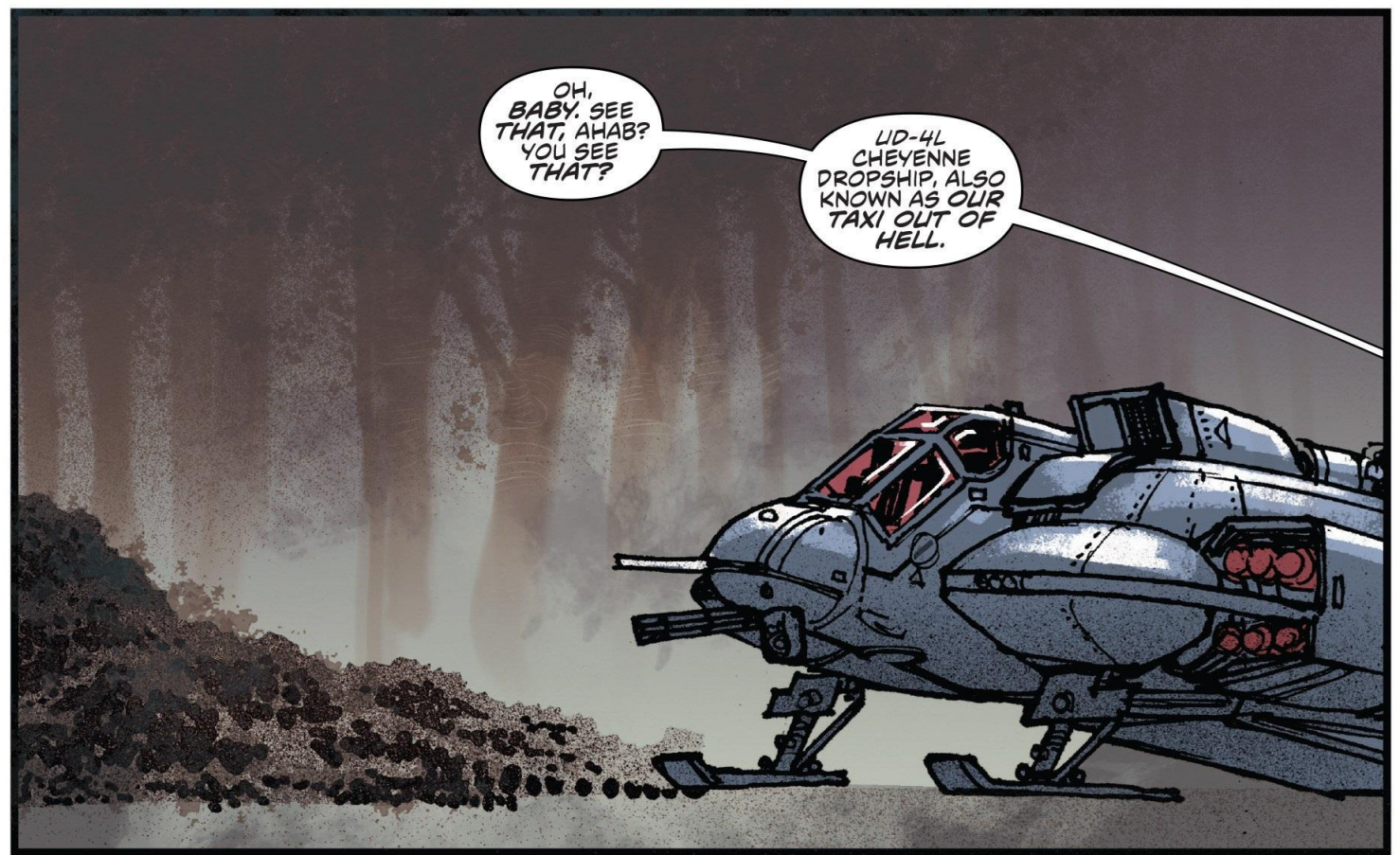
THIS IS NOT OVER. YOU ARE NOT OVER.

YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE THAT, BABY.



WELL, I DID AND IT'S DONE.

SO DESCRIBE YOUR LOCATION LIKE SERGEANT ROTH ASKED. HELP US FIND YOU.



OH,
BABY. SEE
THAT, AHAB?
YOU SEE
THAT?

UD-4L
CHEYENNE
DROPSHIP, ALSO
KNOWN AS OUR
TAXI OUT OF
HELL.



GUESS
THE SOLDIER
BOYS HAVE ALL
DEBUSSED.



WHAT
DO YOU THINK?
SHOULD WE WAIT FOR
THEM TO GET BACK,
OR JUST **HOT-WIRE**
THIS BIRD AND
BOOK?



WHAT?
WHAT?

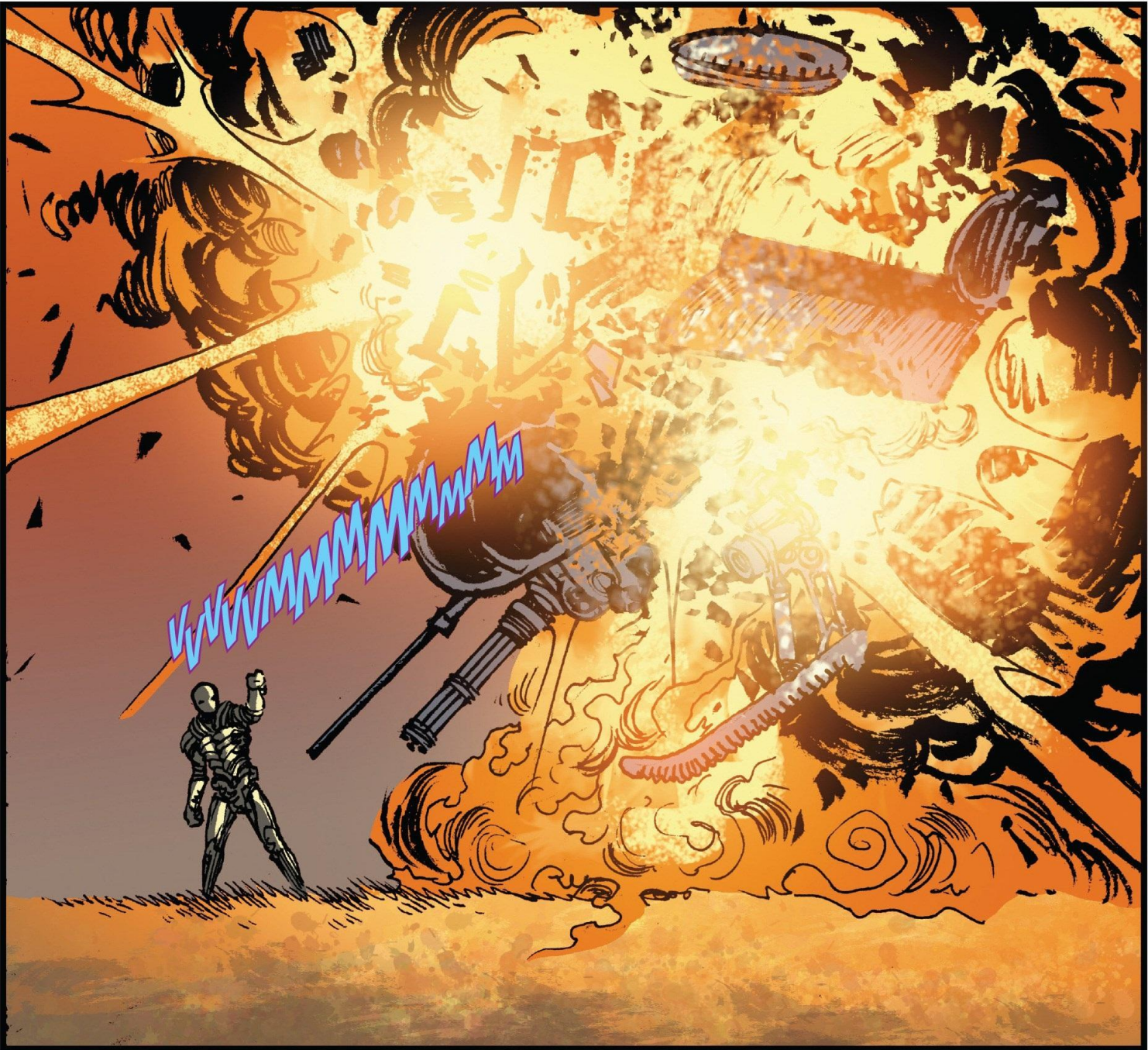
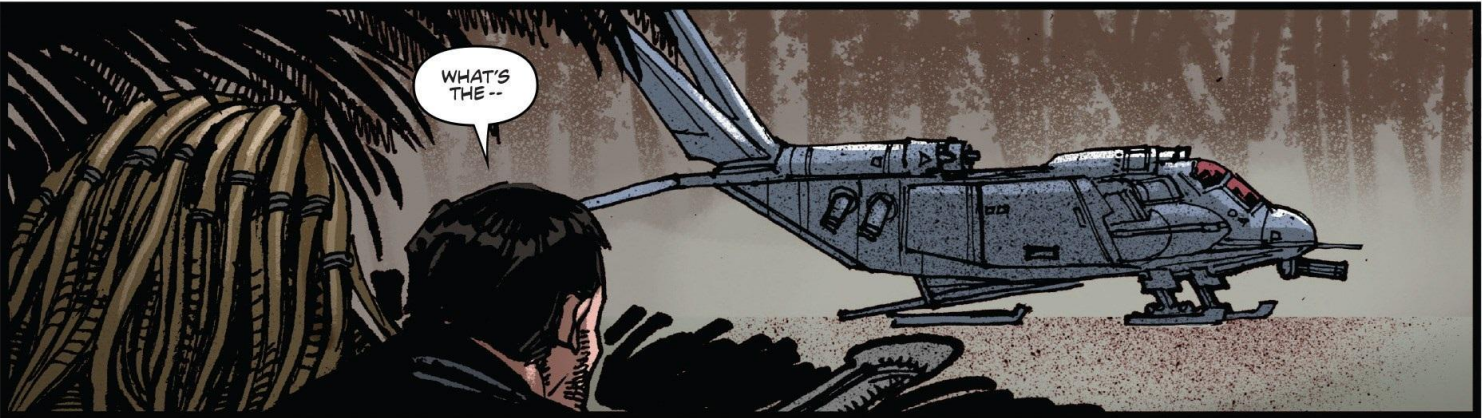
I'M THE
RUTHLESS
ONE?



WHAT'S THE
MATTER?

HRRGL.

OKAY,
OKAY! I'M
COMING.







CHRIS?
THIS IS CAPTAIN
PAGET, ROTH'S
SUPERIOR.

I'M
PATCHED IN
WITH ROTH AND
JILL. DO YOU
READ?

YES,
CAPTAIN.

GOOD. ANY
INFORMATION YOU
CAN GIVE US ABOUT
YOUR LOCATION WILL
BE AN ASSET.



I'M IN
THE NEST. IT'S
SWARMING
WITH BUGS.

THERE'S
ALSO A **BROOD**
XENOMORPH.

WHAT
DOES THAT
MEAN?



A **QUEEN**.
THE **BREEDING**
FORM. THE **EGG**
LAYER.

THE
BUGS WILL
PROTECT THE
QUEEN.

CHRIS, WHAT
ABOUT YOUR
LOCATION? EXITS,
ENTRANCES?



GIVE ME A
SECOND.

IT'S **WEIRD**.
THE BUGS ARE
KEEPING THEIR
DISTANCE. THE
QUEEN TOO.

WHY DO
YOU THINK
THAT IS?

I
THINK IT'S
BECAUSE...I
THINK--

OH
GOD...



CHRIS?
WHAT IS
IT?



I FOUND
YOUR MAN.
RUCKER.



IS HE
ALIVE?

HOLD
ON--



RUCKER?



SKRIK



RUCKER?
RUCKER?

SPEAK
TO ME,
SOLDIER.



I DON' WANNA BE HERE...

MY NAME'S CHRIS. I NEED YOU TO HOLD ON, RUCKER. OKAY?

YOUR UNIT IS COMING TO--



MMNNNGGG!
GGGULLULLUHH!

CHRIS?
CHRIS?



MNNYYGAAHH!
AAAAGHHHH!



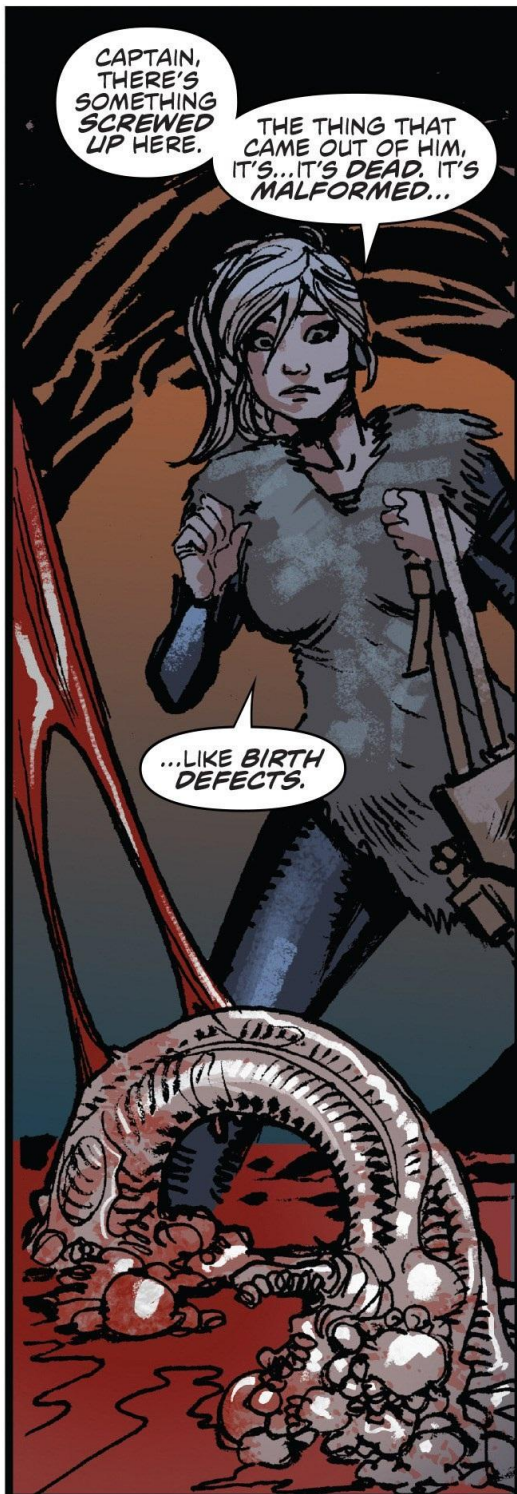
CHRIS?

CHRIS,
DAMMIT!

WHAT'S
HAPPENING?

RUCKER'S
DEAD. HE...

...HATCHED.



CAPTAIN,
THERE'S
SOMETHING
SCREWED
UP HERE.

THE THING THAT
CAME OUT OF HIM,
IT'S...IT'S DEAD. IT'S
MALFORMED...

...LIKE BIRTH
DEFECTS.



LISTEN TO
ME. THE ENGINEERS
HAVE A GENE-
ACTIVE MATERIAL. A
BLACK GOO.

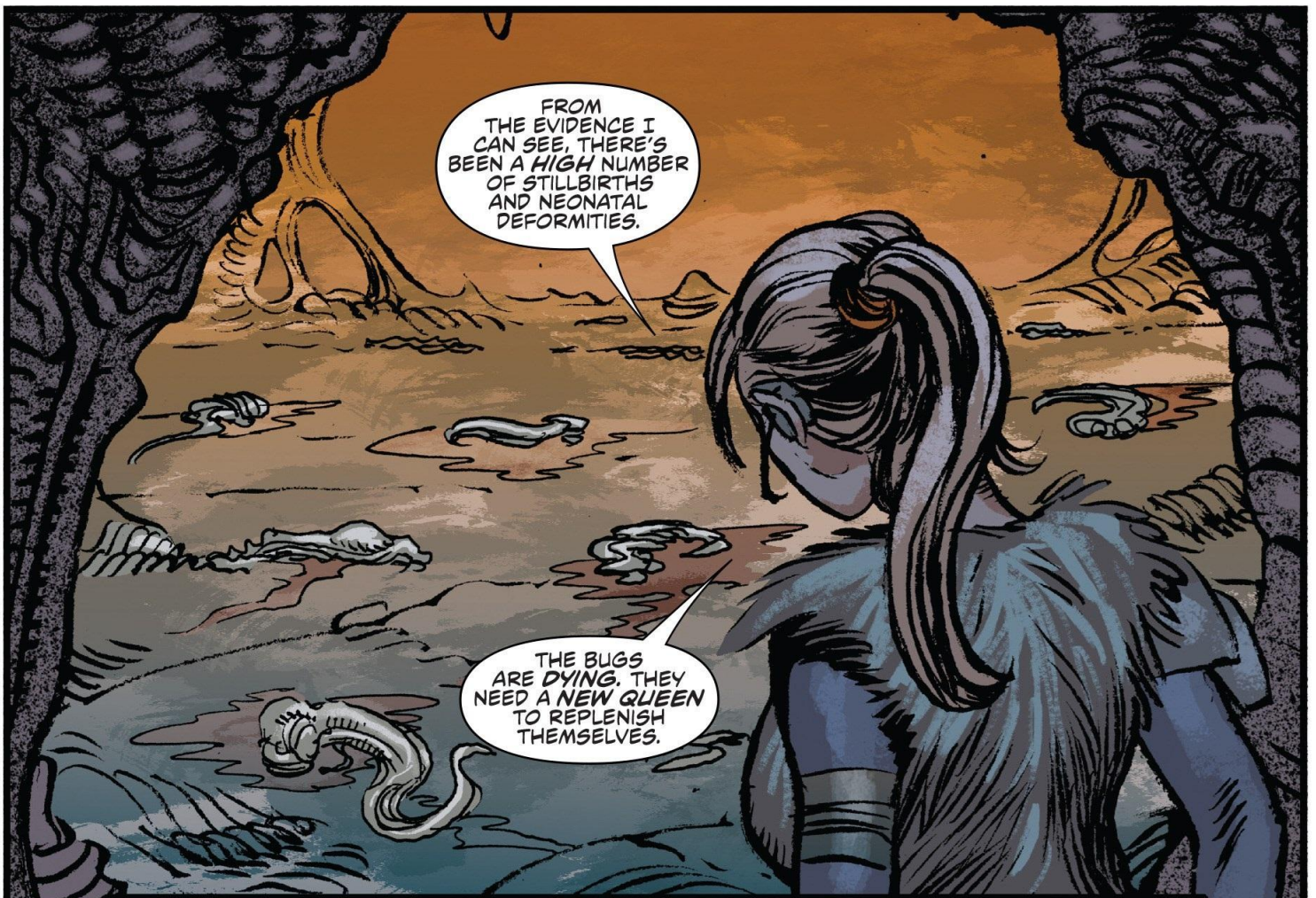
I'VE BEEN
BRIEFED.

I THINK
THERE'S BEEN A
WIDESPREAD SPILL
OF THAT MATERIAL ON
THIS PLANET. IN THE TIME
WE WERE MAROONED
HERE, WE SAW PLENTY
OF EVIDENCE OF
THAT.



I THINK
IT AFFECTED THE
BUGS. CORRUPTED
THEM. THEY'RE NO
LONGER BREEDING
PROPERLY.

I THINK
IT DAMAGED THE
QUEEN. SHE MAY
BE INFERTILE.

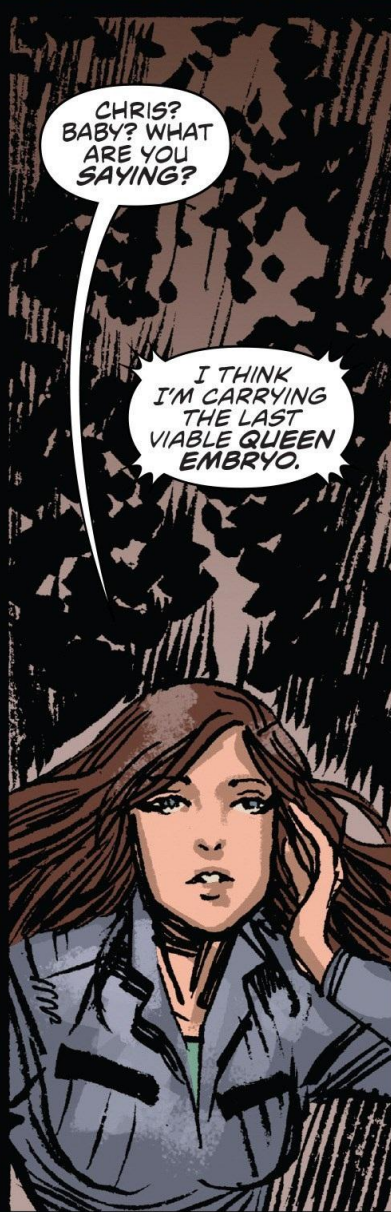


FROM THE EVIDENCE I CAN SEE, THERE'S BEEN A HIGH NUMBER OF STILLBIRTHS AND NEONATAL DEFORMITIES.

THE BUGS ARE DYING. THEY NEED A NEW QUEEN TO REPLENISH THEMSELVES.



AND I THINK *THAT'S* WHY THEY'RE TAKING EXTRA-SPECIAL CARE OF ME.



CHRIS? BABY? WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

I THINK I'M CARRYING THE LAST VIABLE QUEEN EMBRYO.

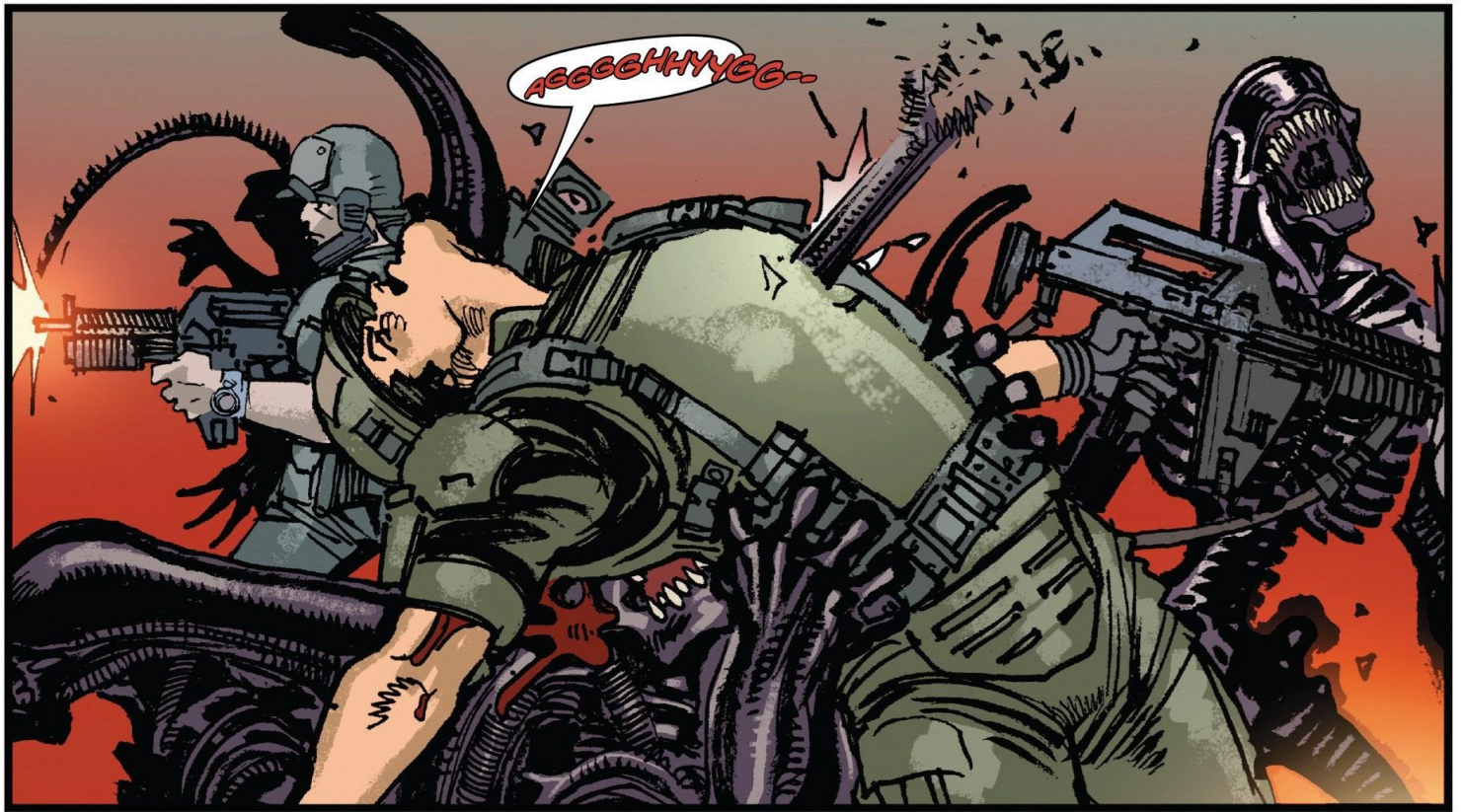


THEY ARE *NOT* GOING TO LET YOU TAKE ME.

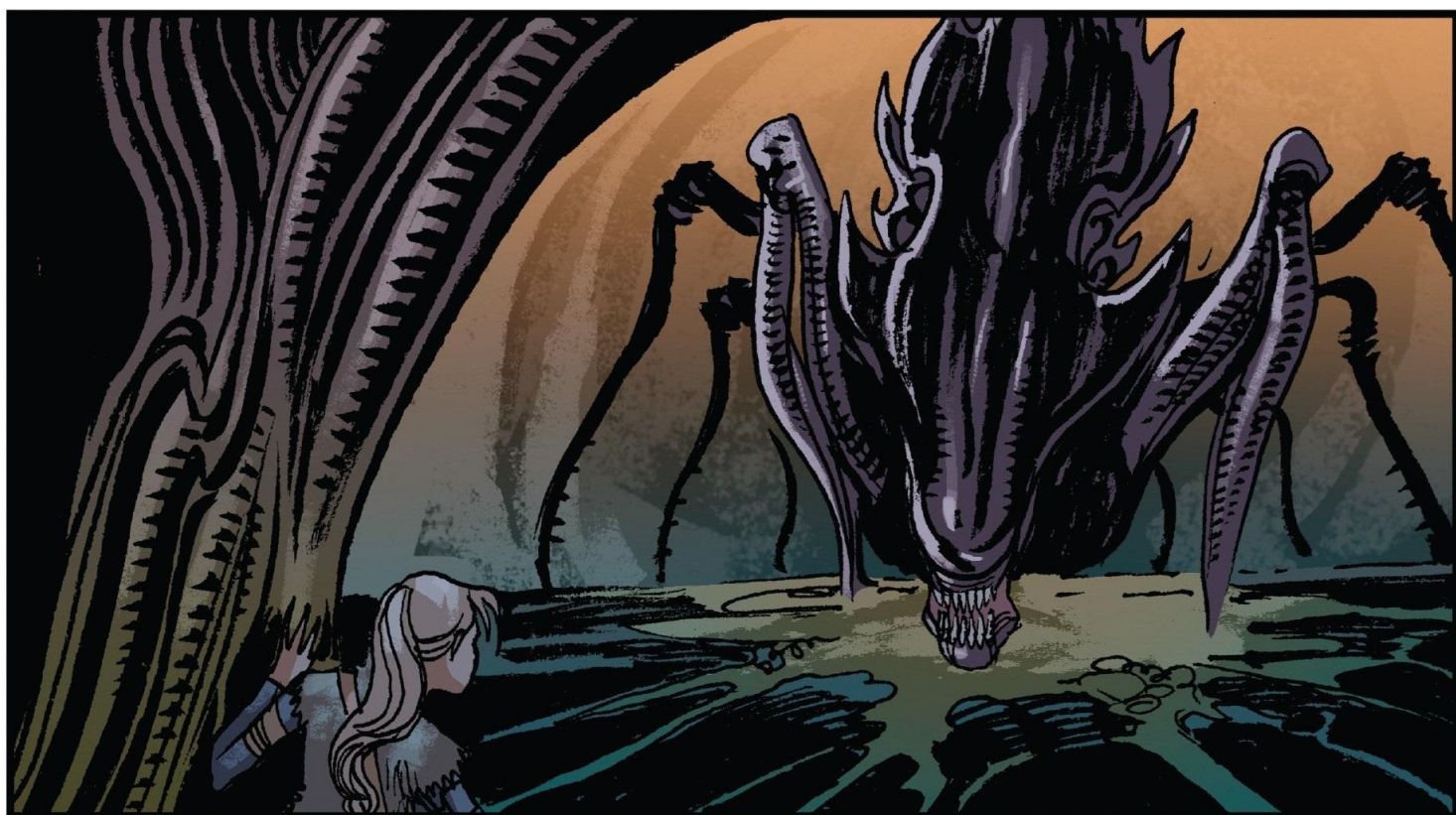


PAGET?
DID YOU
HEAR ME?

CONTACT!













WAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA

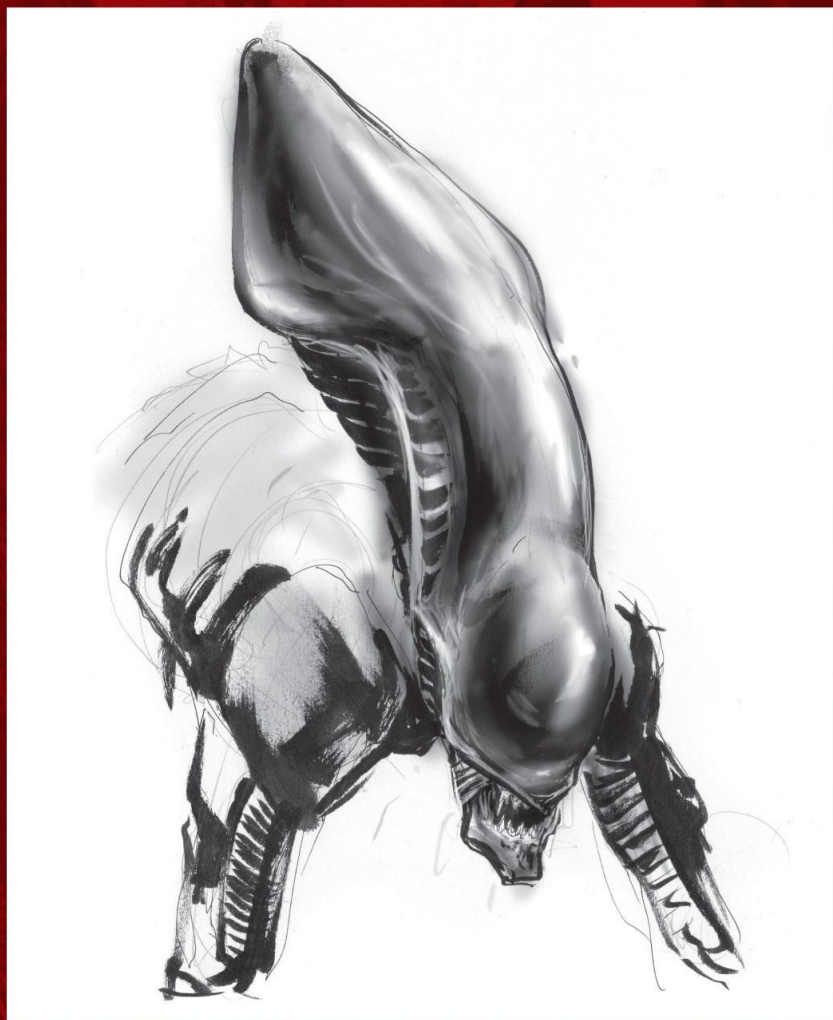


...WE'VE
GOT A WHOLE
DIFFERENT *SCALE*
OF PROBLEM TO
DEAL WITH.



NEXT ISSUE
**DEATH AHEAD,
DEATH BEHIND!**

LIFE AND DEATH ALIENS™



In addition to the designs we showed last issue, artist Brian Thies also provided these designs for nonhuman-hosted xenomorphs for our *Aliens: Life and Death* story.

LIFE AND DEATH
ALIENS™



Issue #4 on sale December 21!

Next issue:

Long Live the Queen!